

### REMARKS

The applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough examination of the application and requests reexamination and reconsideration of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

The applicant acknowledges and appreciates the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-17 and 19-21, as well as the Examiner's indication that claim 22 is also allowable, as understood by the undersigned during a telephone conference with the Examiner.

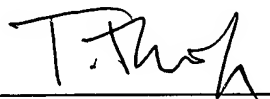
The Examiner rejects claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,294,897 to *Notani et al.* In response and to advance prosecution, the applicant has cancelled claim 18.

### CONCLUSION

Each of the Examiner's rejections has been addressed or traversed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application, including claims 1-17 and 19-22, is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

If for any reason this Response is found to be incomplete, or if at any time it appears that a telephone conference with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned or his associates, collect in Waltham, Massachusetts at (781) 890-5678.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas E. Thompson, Jr.  
Reg. No. 47,136